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Letter dated 14 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On the instructions from my Government, I have the honour to attach the text of a joint statement issued by the Third Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda and the Minister of Information and Communication and Spokesman of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan on relations between the two countries (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Semakula **Kiwanuka**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations

02-29026 (E) 180302

Annex to the letter dated 14 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Joint statement

Since the conclusion of the Nairobi Agreement of December 1999, both the Governments of the Sudan and Uganda have made all efforts, means and leverages available in order to peacefully solve the problem of insecurity, violence and abduction of children by the Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army across the Sudanese-Ugandan borders.

The concerned parties such as the Carter Center, UNICEF, Save the Children Org., and other friendly governments observers to the meetings of the joint Sudanese-Ugandan Ministerial Committee to Implement the Nairobi Agreement of December 1999, were fully aware and involved in these peaceful efforts.

At the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Uganda, both the Governments of the Sudan and Uganda are currently cooperating and coordinating efforts to contain the problems caused by the Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army across the joint borders.

The meeting of H.E. Omar Hassan Ahmed el-Bashir, the President of the Republic of the Sudan with H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the President of the Republic of Uganda, held in Khartoum on 12 January 2002, and the subsequent meetings that followed between the two parties invigorated the will of both the Sudan and Uganda to implement faithfully the provisions of the Nairobi Agreement concluded between them in December 1999 and to further foster and maintain the peace and security across their common border.

By virtue of the foregoing agreements and subsequent contacts and understandings, the Government of the Sudan provided access for the friendly Ugandan forces to execute a limited military operation within the borders of the Sudan in order to deal with the Lord's Resistance Army problems.

Through the currently ongoing arrangements and existing cooperation, the two Governments are looking forward to enhancing the confidence and promoting good relations between their respective countries, and to adequately working out practical solutions to the threats facing the safety and the security of both the Sudan and Uganda in a way suiting the illegality of the activities of the perpetrators.

The ongoing cooperation between the two countries reconfirms the commitments and obligations of both Governments under the Nairobi Agreement of December 1999 and further demonstrates their coordination and readiness to support the international community in its legitimate measures to combat terrorism as recently reflected in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

In the process of coordinating and implementing the agreed arrangements, both Uganda and the Sudan will spare no efforts in order to safeguard and maintain the safety of innocent civilians, as well as the safe repatriation of abducted children through the coordination and assistance of the concerned international humanitarian organizations.

Signed in Kampala on Wednesday, 13 March 2002

H.E. Mahdi Ibrahim **Mohammed**
Minister of Information and Communication and Spokesman of
the Government of Sudan
Sudan

Hon. J. F. **Wapakhabulo**
Third Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs
Uganda